

Application No. 10/829,656
Amendment dated Mar. 3, 2006
Reply to Office action of Oct. 6, 2005
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (new): A decorative apparatus usable with a liquid, said decorative apparatus comprising:

- a container for receiving the liquid;
- an object, said object being substantially buoyant and supportable by the liquid while being at least in part submerged into the liquid;
- a first magnet mounted to said object, said first magnet defining first magnet first and second magnetic poles having opposed polarities; and
- a second magnet movable over a predetermined path relatively to said container, said second magnet defining second magnet first and second magnetic poles having opposed polarities;
- whereby moving said second magnet over said predetermined path modifies a magnetic field present substantially adjacent said first magnet, thereby causing a force onto said object.

Claim 3 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein the object includes at least one of graphics and lettering inscribed thereonto.

Claim 4 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein said object is partially submersible and floatable onto the liquid.

Claim 5 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 4, wherein said decorative apparatus is usable with a combustible light source and said object includes a light source support for supporting the combustible light source above the liquid.

Claim 6 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein said object is entirely submersible into the liquid.

Claim 7 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 6, wherein said container includes a substantially hermetically sealable enclosure fillable with the liquid.

Claim 8 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 2, further comprising a motor and a magnet support rotatable by said motor about a rotation axis, said second magnet

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being mounted to said magnet support so that at least one of said second magnet first and second magnetic poles is located eccentrically relatively to said rotation axis.

Claim 9 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein said motor, magnet and magnet support are located within said container.

Claim 10 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein said second magnet is mounted to said magnet support so that both said second magnet first and second magnetic poles are located substantially eccentrically relatively to said rotation axis.

Claim 11 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein said second magnet is a substantially U-shaped magnet defining a second magnet first leg, a second magnet second leg and a second magnet legs connecting portion extending therebetween, said second magnet first magnetic pole being located into said second magnet first leg and said second magnet second magnetic pole being located into said second magnet second leg.

Claim 12 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein said second magnet is attached to said magnet support so that said first and second legs are located substantially diametrically opposed to each other relatively to said rotation axis.

Claim 13 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein said first magnet is a substantially U-shaped magnet defining a first magnet first leg, a first magnet second leg and a first magnet legs connecting portion extending therebetween, said first magnet first magnetic pole being located into said first leg and said first magnet second magnetic pole being located into said second leg, said first magnet first and second legs extending substantially towards said second magnet when said object is supported by the liquid.

Claim 14 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein said magnet support is substantially elongated and defines a magnet support first end and a substantially longitudinally opposed magnet support second end, said magnet support first end being located substantially adjacent said rotation axis and said second magnet being attached to said magnet support substantially adjacent to said magnet support second end.

Claim 15 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein said second magnet is a substantially elongated magnet having substantially opposed second magnet first and second magnetic poles, said second magnet defining a second magnet longitudinal axis, said second magnet longitudinal axis being substantially parallel to said rotation axis.

Claim 16 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein said first magnet is mounted into said object.

Claim 17 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 2, further comprising a motor casing, said motor, magnet support and second magnet being mounted into said motor casing.

Claim 18 (new): A decorative apparatus as defined in claim 2, further comprising a container support for suspending said container.

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Claim 19 (new): A decorative apparatus usable with a liquid, said decorative apparatus comprising:

- a container for receiving the liquid;
- an object, said object being substantially buoyant and supportable by the liquid while being at least in part submerged into the liquid; and
- an actuator operatively coupled to said object for moving said object relatively to said container.

Claim 20 (new): A decorative apparatus as claimed in claim 18, further comprising a magnet and a magnetizable member, one of said magnet and said magnetizable member being attached to said object and the other one of said magnet and said magnetizable member being attached to said actuator so as to be movable over a predetermined path relatively to said container.